



ABSA INTERNATIONAL

The Association for Biosafety and Biosecurity

1st Biosecurity Symposium

The Renaissance Depot Hotel
Minneapolis, Minnesota
May 12-15, 2020

**Preliminary
Program**



biosecuritysymposium.org

ABSA International
1st Biosecurity Symposium
May 12-15, 2020

Registration Desk

Tuesday 7:00 am - 5:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday 7:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday 7:00 am - 12:00 pm

Opening Reception

Tuesday 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Poster and Networking Reception

Thursday 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Hotel Information

The Renaissance Depot Hotel
225 3rd Avenue S
Minneapolis, MN 55401
612-375-1700

The room block is available until April 20, 2020 or until the rooms are sold out.

Exhibit Hall

The Exhibit Hall will be open on Tuesday from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm showcasing the latest in laboratory biosafety and biosecurity products and services during the Opening Reception. The Exhibit Hall will be open on Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.



ABSA International has been approved as a provider of continuing education programs in clinical laboratory science by the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (ASCLS), Professional Acknowledgment for Continuing Education P.A.C.E.® program.

For each professional development course, contact hours will be based on 60 minutes of instructional time for each P.A.C.E.® contact hour. The maximum number of P.A.C.E.® contact hours to be credited for half-day courses is 3.50 contact hours and for full-day courses is 7.50 contact hours. Attendees have the opportunity to earn up to 16.5 contact hours by attending the entire symposium program. Attendance rosters must be signed in for each attended session that credit is requested for and the P.A.C.E.® certificate of attendance must be validated by ABSA staff at the registration desk on your final day of attendance at the symposium.

1st Biosecurity Symposium

Professional Development Courses

Visit <https://biosecuritysymposium.org/> for course availability.

Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

1. Tactical Implementation of Biosecurity Principles: An Advanced, Scenario-Driven Course on Risk and Threat Management Programs

Ryan N. Burnette, PhD, Merrick and Company, Washington, DC

Lauren Richardson, DVM, DACVPM, Merrick and Company, Washington, DC

Chuck Tobin, CTM, At-Risk International, LLC, Boca Raton, FL

Stephen Goldsmith, DVM, US Federal Bureau of Investigation, WMD Directorate, Washington, DC

A distinguishing factor between security and biosecurity programs is the fact that biosecurity programs are focused on assets that are biological in nature. This brings forth unique distinctions in implementing risk- and threat-based approaches to prevent the release, loss, or theft of these assets. This advanced workshop will challenge participants to fully analyze a single biosecurity driven scenario through a series of risk and threat management decision-making tools. Participants will learn the principles of biosecurity, which set it apart from traditional security, by applying tactical methodology to analyze a real-world biosecurity case study. The outcomes of this intensive course will be the identification of biosecurity-specific risk and threats, their corresponding prioritization against a mitigation plan, approaches for blending these inputs for comprehensive biorisk management, and finally, an integrated biosecurity plan. Participants will leave the course with tools that will be applicable to their host institutions for future engagements in building effective integrated biosecurity plans against scenarios.

Objectives:

- Summarize the stakeholder roles in biosecurity planning and assessment as part of a comprehensive biorisk management program
- Recognize, assess, and develop mitigations for risks, threats, and vulnerabilities to protect biological materials and other laboratory assets from unauthorized access, loss, theft, misuse, diversion, or intentional release
- Develop strategies for prioritization and communication of needs associated with implementing an integrated biosecurity plan

Suggested Background: Moderate background knowledge in biosafety, cybersecurity, risk management, and security

Target Audience: Seasoned biosafety professionals, risk management professionals, biosecurity practitioners, or others with comparable experience

Audience Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

2. Biosecurity for Agricultural Facilities

Nick Chaplinski, MS, RBP(ABSA), USDA Agricultural Research Service, Athens, GA

Julie Johnson, PhD, CBSP(ABSA), Kansas State University—Biosecurity Research Institute, Manhattan, KS

Brandy Nelson, MS, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

This course will define biosecurity in the context of agriculture. Concepts of general biosafety, biocontainment, biosecurity, veterinary, and occupational health principles as they apply to agricultural research facilities, labs and farms, and veterinary diagnostic labs will be discussed. Key considerations relevant to the design and performance of research activities involving agricultural species, pathogens, facilities, practices, and/or equipment will be explored in detail. Concepts related to the physical security of farms, humans as vectors of disease, mechanical systems, personnel workflows and movement, and waste handling and movement will be described as they relate to a comprehensive facility biosecurity program. Interactive exercises will allow course participants the opportunity to design “biosecure” facilities and work through the challenges of ensuring biosafety and biosecurity in the unique environment of agricultural research. Course learning activities will provide opportunities for discussion and exchange of ideas that reinforce the practical application of knowledge, information, and concepts covered through formal

presentations, and give participants actual experience in contributing to the development of environmentally safe and sound research practices and containment procedures.

Objectives:

- Define the concept of biosecurity in the context of agriculture
- Restate the challenges and hazards specific to research involving agricultural species, pathogens, facilities, practices, and/or equipment
- Design “biosecure” facilities for agricultural research and diagnostic lab facilities and farms

Suggested Background: Basic understanding of principles and practices of biological safety; ability to perform general risk assessments for research and/or diagnostic labs; and familiarity with the concept of biosecurity as defined by ABSA International at <https://biosecuritysymposium.org/>

Target Audience: Biosafety and Biosecurity Professionals, Veterinarians, Veterinary Technicians, Animal Care Professionals, Research Facility Design Professionals, Veterinarian Diagnostic Lab Professionals, Agricultural Researchers

Audience Level: Advanced

Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

3. Biosecurity for Uncertain Situations: Challenges and Solutions

Faculty from Sandia National Laboratories Global Chemical & Biological Security Group, Albuquerque, NM

How do you assess and effectively secure biological materials when you do not know what agents you might be encountering? How much biosecurity is enough when your resources are limited, or your setting is challenging? This course will use case studies and guided exercises to assess security risks and describe challenges, lessons-learned, and opportunities for protecting biological materials, especially in situations where information, resources, and support are scarce. Using the best practices shared, participants will develop new strategies to improve biosecurity in certain and uncertain settings with the goal of directly applying the knowledge gained in their professional settings. This course is intended for participants from all sectors where security of biological materials is critical, and all roles involved in assuring this security are encouraged to attend. This course is intentionally designed to be “borderless” to encourage participation of stakeholders across the world. Instructors will rely on universal and global principles of biosecurity to facilitate discussion, rather than on compliance with country-specific legal frameworks.

Objectives:

- Adapt biosecurity risk assessment processes to uncertain situations
- Define challenges with implementing and integrating strategies to reduce the risk of theft, diversion, loss or intentional misuse of biological materials from laboratories or laboratory-related activities
- Identify options for managing biosecurity risks in uncertain or challenging settings

Suggested Background: None

Target Audience: Biosafety Professionals, Risk Management Professionals, Biosecurity Practitioners, or others with comparable experience; applicable for participants from all sectors where security of biological materials is critical and all roles involved in assuring this security

Audience Level: Intermediate

Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

4. Building Operationally Sustainable Biosecurity Programs

Erin Sorrell, PhD, Elizabeth R Griffin Program, Center for Global Health Science and Security, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

Biosecurity programs are a critical component to any facility that houses pathogens or toxins that when lost, stolen, or accidentally released could result in damage to the laboratory, its workers, and/or the outside community. This course will focus on mapping core institutional needs to develop or strengthen biosecurity programs in the context of existing national policies, regulations, or legislation. Participants will work together to determine, assess, and select key indicators under the five pillars of biosecurity in order to develop a measurable program framework that can be adapted and applied to various institutions. Participants will gain experience in creating roadmaps for successful programs that can be measured over time building towards functional and operational biosecurity programs. Participants will have an opportunity

to test their indicators and framework against hypothetical programs in small group settings building knowledge, expertise, and networks with other biosecurity professionals.

Objectives:

- Describe, discuss, and explain the basic structure of an operational framework
- Develop a biosecurity program framework
- Apply the biosecurity program framework to existing programs to determine key indicators of success, areas for improvement and design a course of action towards fully operational and sustainable biosecurity programs

Suggested Background: None

Target Audience: Biosafety Professionals, Risk Management Professionals, Biosecurity Practitioners

Audience Level: Intermediate

Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

5. Biosecurity in an Evolving Scientific Landscape: Law Enforcement Perspectives on Risk Assessment and Mitigation Practices

William So, PhD, US Federal Bureau of Investigation, WMD Directorate, Washington, DC

The United States' 2018 National Biodefense Strategy's Objective 2.4 states national efforts are needed to, "Strengthen biosafety and biosecurity practices and oversight to mitigate risks of bioincidents." There are continuing efforts to implement biological security mechanisms at all levels to support the protection of material, technologies, information, and expertise from illicit acquisition and misuse. However, the traditional paradigm focuses protection and mitigation on specific pathogens-of-concern and types of research. Additionally, national counterproliferation mechanisms against misuse are challenged by decreasing costs of advanced technologies, widely available information and tools, and enabling technologies that lower expertise requirements. These factors present increasing risks to national security and potentially hindering scientific progress because of overreaction by national governments. Biosecurity must start at the institutional level where increased understanding and innovations begin, multidisciplinary approaches to scientific research occur, and drivers toward entrepreneurship take place. There are innumerable benefits from these applications, from health resilience to economic growth. However, there is insufficient understanding of the types of threats and available tools and resources for risk assessments that evolve with the pace of scientific progress. This course will be in two parts: part I is a presentation on the scope of biosecurity threats from the national and global perspectives and part II is interactive, an exploration of feasible and implementable tools to assess risks and mitigation practices capable of evolving with science.

Objectives:

- Restate how biosecurity at the institutional level fits into the national and international strategic oversight framework
- Identify key factors such as innovation, multidisciplinary approaches to scientific research, and drivers toward entrepreneurship as points of potential biosecurity concerns
- Explore the feasibility of implementing risk assessment and mitigation tools capable of evolving with the rapidly advancing scientific landscape

Suggested Background: Moderate background knowledge in biosafety, cybersecurity, and risk management

Target Audience: All levels of biosecurity and security practitioners, Biosafety Professionals, Others with comparable experience

Audience Level: Intermediate

Opening Reception

The Opening Reception will be held Tuesday, May 12 from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm in the Exhibit Hall.

1st Biosecurity Symposium

Symposium Program

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

7:00 - 5:00 pm	Registration
9:30 - 4:00 pm	Vendor Exhibits
8:15 - 8:25 am	Welcome and ABSA International President's Address David Gillum, MS, RBP(ABSA), Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
8:25 - 8:30 am	Biosecurity Symposium Executive Steering Committee Welcome Rebecca Moritz, MS, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, WI Antony Schwartz, PhD, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), Duke University, Durham, NC
Session I	Keynote Speaker
8:30 - 9:30 am	Introduction: Rebecca Moritz, MS, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, WI Biosecurity Governance, Concerns, and Future Directions Sam Weiss Evans, MSc, DPhil, Tufts University, Medford, MA
Session II	Biosecurity Governance and Implementation
9:30 - 9:50 am	Moderator: Julie Fischer, PhD, Georgetown University Medical Center, Washington, DC Biosecurity—A Historical Perspective Ben Perman, PhD, U.S. Coast Guard, Alexandria, VA
9:50 - 10:10 am	Canadian Biosecurity Programs Genevieve Lacroix, MSc, Public Health Agency of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
10:10 - 10:40 am	Exhibits and Break
10:40 - 11:00 am	Challenges and Successes of Biosecurity in Latin America Luis Alberto Ochoa Carrera, MSc, Mexican Institute for Social Security, Mexico City, Mexico
11:00 - 11:20 am	The Role of the Netherlands Biosecurity Office in Raising Awareness and Improving Biosecurity Culture within Organizations Mirjam Schaap, PhD, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, Bilthoven, Netherlands
11:20 - 11:40 am	TBD
11:40 - 12:00 pm	Roadmap for Implementing Biosecurity and Biodefense Policy in the United States Venkat Rao, PhD, DBAT, Parsons, Centreville, VA
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Exhibits and Lunch
Session III	Biosecurity Successes, Challenges, and Lessons Learned
1:30 - 2:10 pm	Moderator: Luis Alberto Ochoa Carrera, MSc, Mexican Institute for Social Security, Mexico City, Mexico Lessons Learned from the Global Health Security Agenda Julie Fischer, PhD, Georgetown University Medical Center, Washington, DC
2:10 - 2:30 pm	Biosecurity Successes in an International Pharmaceutical Company Barbara Owen, MPH, RBP(ABSA), CBSP(ABSA), Merck & Co, Inc., West Point, PA
2:30 - 2:50 pm	Novel Biosecurity Program Implementation Model for Multifaceted Biological and Biomedical Laboratories Ryan Burnette, PhD, Merrick & Company, Arlington, VA

2:50 - 3:20 pm	Exhibits and Coffee Break
3:20 - 4:00 pm	Bioengagement in the Middle East and North Africa: Leveraging the Past to Enhance the Future Kavita Berger, PhD, Gryphon Scientific, Takoma Park, MD
4:00 - 4:20 pm	Accelerating Action in Global Health Security, A Case Study of the GHSA Action Package Prevent 3 “Biosafety and Biosecurity” Sabrina Brizee, MSc, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, Bilthoven, Netherlands
4:20 - 4:40 pm	Biosecurity at the Wildlife Interface-Lessons from the Front Line Dominic Travis, DVM, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN
4:40 - 5:00 pm	Restricted by Whom: A Review of Space Biosecurity Betsy Pugel, PhD, NASA, Greenbelt, MD
5:00 - 5:05 pm	Closing Remarks Rebecca Moritz, MS, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, WI Antony Schwartz, PhD, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), Duke University, Durham, NC

Thursday, May 14, 2020

7:00 - 5:00 pm	Registration
9:30 - 4:00 pm	Vendor Exhibits
8:00 - 8:15 am	Welcome and Recap of Day 1 Rebecca Moritz, MS, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, WI Antony Schwartz, PhD, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), Duke University, Durham, NC
8:15 - 8:30 am	ABSA International Biosecurity Credential Update Barbara Owen, MPH, RBP(ABSA), CBSP(ABSA), Merck & Co, Inc., West Point, PA
Session IV	Biosecurity Governance—Beyond Laws and Regulations Moderator: Rebecca Moritz, MS, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, WI Antony Schwartz, PhD, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), Duke University, Durham, NC
8:30 - 9:45 am	Biosecurity Self-Governance Effective Communication: Beyond Country Borders Roundtable Panel: TBD
9:45 - 10:15 am	Exhibits and Break
Session V	Biosecurity Risk Training, Education, and Communication Moderator: Jo Husbands, PhD, The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Washington, DC
10:15 - 10:35 am	Re-envisioning Biosecurity Training Lisa Burley, MS, RBP(ABSA), University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
10:35 - 10:55 am	Title: TBD Clem Fortman, PhD, Engineering Biology Research Consortium, Emeryville, CA
10:55 - 11:15 am	Biosecurity, Outreach and Training through Cooperative Engagement Bradford Books, PhD, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Fort Belvoir, VA
11:15 - 11:45 am	iGem’s Approach to Biosecurity Piers Millet, PhD, iGem Foundation, Boston, MA
11:45 - 12:00 pm	TBD

12:00 - 1:30 pm	Exhibits and Lunch
Session VI	Personnel Reliability and Personal Security
	Moderator: Jim Welch, Affiliate, Elizabeth R Griffin Program, Georgetown University Medical Center, Washington, DC
1:30 - 2:00 pm	Measuring Personnel Suitability and Reliability Ray Kozial, PhD, Madison, WI
2:00 - 2:20 pm	TBD
2:20 - 2:40 pm	Human Errors and Reliability in the Life Sciences: A Call for More Research Ryan Ritterson, PhD, Gryphon Scientific, Takoma Park, MD
2:40 - 3:00 pm	Impacts of Incidents of Workplace Violence on High Containment Laboratory Incident Response and Biosecurity Planning in Academic Institutions Lolly Gardiner, MBA, RBP(ABSA), CBSP(ABSA), MRIGlobal, Gaithersburg, MD
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Exhibits and Break
Session VII	Cyberbiosecurity
	Moderator: Kavita Berger, PhD, Gryphon Scientific, Takoma Park, MD
3:30 - 4:00 pm	Cyberbiosecurity from a Law Enforcement Perspective William So, PhD, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, DC
4:00 - 4:20 pm	TBD
4:20 - 4:40 pm	International Network Impacts of Cybersecurity on Global Health Security and Biotechnology Samantha Dittrich, MPH, Merrick & Company, Denver, CO
4:40 - 5:00 pm	Cybersecurity: Concerns, Challenges, and Issues on the Horizon Roundtable Moderators: David Gillum, MS, RBP(ABSA), Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ Antony Schwartz, PhD, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), Duke University, Durham, NC Panel: William So, PhD, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, DC Samantha Dittrich, MPH, Merrick & Company, Denver, CO TBD
5:00 - 5:05 pm	Closing Remarks Rebecca Moritz, MS, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, WI Antony Schwartz, PhD, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), Duke University, Durham, NC
5:30 - 7:00 pm	Poster and Networking Reception

Friday, May 15, 2020

7:00 - 5:00 pm	Registration
8:00 - 8:10 am	Welcome and Recap of Day 2 Barbara Owen, MPH, RBP(ABSA), CBSP(ABSA), Merck & Co, Inc., West Point, PA
Session VIII	Bioeconomy and Bioindustry
	Moderator: Jessica McCormick-Ell, PhD, RBP(ABSA), CBSP(ABSA), SM(MRCM), Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark, NJ
8:10 - 8:40 am	Biosecurity and the Bioeconomy Speaker: TBD
8:40 - 9:00 am	TBD
9:00 - 9:20 am	Open for Business: Understanding How Bio-Based Start-Up Incubators Address Biosecurity Lora Grainger, PhD, Project Safe Lab, LLC, Albuquerque, NM

9:20 - 9:40 am	Biosecurity of Ubiquitous Biologically-Derived Toxins in the BSL-2 Laboratory: A Case for Increased Awareness and Oversight in an Evolving Landscape Antony Schwartz, PhD, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), Duke University, Durham, NC
9:40 - 10:00 am	Coffee Break
Session IX	Engagement and the Future of Biosecurity
10:00 - 11:00 am	Moderator: Eric Rouse, MS, RBP(ABSA), University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY Potential Misuse of Research Discussion Panel: Meghan Palmer, PhD, Stanford University, Stanford, CA Rebecca Moritz, MS, CBSP(ABSA), SM(NRCM), University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, WI TBD
11:00 - 12:00 pm	Research and Public Engagement Discussion Panel: Kelly Tyrrell, University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, WI Todd Kuiken, PhD, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC Jo Husbands, The National Academies of Sciences, Washington, DC Phil Bates, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Phoenix, AZ
12:00 pm	Close of Symposium David Gillum, MS, RBP(ABSA), Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ ABSA International President

Future Events

63rd Annual Biosafety and Biosecurity Conference

October 31—November 5, 2020 • JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge, Phoenix, AZ

USDA ARS 6th International Biosafety & Biocontainment Symposium

February 1-4, 2021 • Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, Baltimore, MD

64th Annual Biosafety and Biosecurity Conference

October 22-27, 2021 • Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh, NC

65th Annual Biosafety and Biosecurity Conference

October 14-19, 2022 • Wisconsin Center, Milwaukee, WI

USDA ARS 7th International Biosafety & Biocontainment Symposium

February 6-9, 2023 • Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, Baltimore, MD



ABSA

INTERNATIONAL

The Association for Biosafety and Biosecurity

Registration Form
1st Biosecurity Symposium
May 12-15, 2020

ABSA International
 include Member ID Number: _____

Nonmember

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Phone: _____

Registration includes: breaks, lunches, Opening Reception, and Poster Reception.

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Symposium Fees	through 4/14	4/15 - onsite	Amount
ABSA International Member	\$750	\$800	\$ _____
Nonmember	\$970	\$1,020	\$ _____
Member of ABSA International Affiliate	\$860	\$910	\$ _____
discount code: _____			
One-day Member (Wednesday)	\$325	\$350	\$ _____
One-day Nonmember (Wednesday)	\$400	\$425	\$ _____
One-day Member (Thursday)	\$325	\$350	\$ _____
One-day Nonmember (Thursday)	\$400	\$425	\$ _____
One-day Member (Friday)	\$150	\$175	\$ _____
One-day Nonmember (Friday)	\$200	\$225	\$ _____
Emeritus Member	\$375	\$400	\$ _____
Additional box lunch (\$40 each)			\$ _____
Additional Opening Reception tickets (\$60 each)			\$ _____
Additional Poster Reception tickets (\$100 each)			\$ _____
Total from course(s):			\$ _____
Total amount enclosed or to be charged:			\$ _____

Registration is not complete without payment or credit card information. Purchase Orders are not accepted. Check must be made payable to "ABSA International" and bank drafted in U.S. dollars or it will be returned.

Visa MasterCard American Express Check Enclosed

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Cardholder's Name (print): _____

Professional Development Courses

Tuesday, May 12, 2020 **Member** **Nonmember** **Amount**

Full Day Courses

1. Tactical Implementation of Biosecurity Principles: An Advanced, Scenario-Driven Course on Risk and Threat Management Programs \$550 \$600 \$ _____
2. Biosecurity for Agricultural Facilities \$550 \$600 \$ _____
3. Biosecurity for Uncertain Situations: Challenges and Solutions \$550 \$600 \$ _____

Morning Course

4. Building Operationally Sustainable Biosecurity Programs \$300 \$350 \$ _____

Afternoon Course

5. Biosecurity in an Evolving Scientific Landscape: Law Enforcement Perspectives on Risk Assessment and Mitigation Practices \$300 \$350 \$ _____

Badge Policy: Badges must be worn at all symposium events. There will be a \$25 badge replacement fee for lost or forgotten badges.

Conference Cancellation Policy: Cancellations postmarked by March 31, 2020—no refund. 85% refund. Cancellations postmarked after March 31, 2020—no refund.

Course space is limited. No course substitutions or changes prior to the conference. Please visit the ABSA International website at <https://biosecuritysymposium.org/> for course availability and online registration. Mail to: ABSA International, 1200 Allanson Road, Mundelein, IL 60060-3808 or fax to 847-566-4580. **Registration forms must be faxed to the ABSA International Office to receive the Affiliate Member discount.**

ABSA International

ABSA International (ABSA) was founded in 1984 to promote biosafety and biosecurity as a scientific discipline and serve the growing needs of biosafety professionals throughout the world. The Association's goals are to establish the global standard for biosafety and biosecurity, to provide a professional association that represents the interests and needs of practitioners of biosafety and biosecurity, and to provide a forum for the continued and timely exchange of biosafety and biosecurity information. ABSA accomplishes these goals through providing members and stakeholders expertise and resources through publications in the peer-reviewed journal *Applied Biosafety*; the ABSA website; sponsoring a conference event; training programs to inform members of regulatory initiatives, hazard recognition and management issues, risk communications; current biosafety and biosecurity publications; meetings and seminars; e-mail updates; training opportunities; and employment opportunities. Additionally, ABSA members receive "Members Only" web privileges where they have access to past issues of *Applied Biosafety*, and members can participate in a biosafety and biosecurity mentoring program.

Core Purpose: ABSA is dedicated to promoting and expanding biosafety and biosecurity expertise.

Core Organizational Values: Leading the profession; collaboration and community; promote biosafety as a scientific discipline; absolute integrity; and high standards of excellence

ABSA Event Code of Conduct: ABSA International is committed to providing an environment that encourages the free expression and exchange of scientific ideas and promotes respectful treatment for all participants. All participants are expected to treat others with respect and consideration, follow venue rules, and alert ABSA staff or security of any dangerous situations or anyone in distress. ABSA International prohibits and will not tolerate any form of harassment or bullying at its events. Harassment is unwanted and unwelcome attention or other conduct that creates an environment where a reasonable person would feel unwelcome, intimidated, excluded, or abused. Harassment based on gender, race, religion, national origin, age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, political affiliation, and any other personal characteristic is strictly prohibited. This policy applies to all attendees, speakers, exhibitors, contractors, volunteers, and guests at ABSA events. If a participant experiences or witnesses harassment, he/she should contact ABSA staff as soon as possible or contact security if they feel unsafe. All complaints will be responded to promptly and treated seriously and, to the extent possible, confidentially. ABSA expressly forbids any retaliation against individuals for reporting harassment. In the event that an individual knowingly provides false information regarding a harassment situation, ABSA may take similar disciplinary action. ABSA will accept and investigate all complaints of harassment and investigations will be conducted in an unbiased manner. All complaints will be responded to promptly and treated seriously and, to the extent possible, confidentially.

ABSA Inclusion Statement: In alignment with our core organizational values, ABSA encourages positive connections between biosafety professionals, scientists, governmental/nongovernmental organizations, and the public. It is our organization's policy to administer all activities without discrimination on the basis of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, marital/familial status, and veteran status. These practices extend to all aspects of ABSA's activities and to all roles within the association (e.g., member, ambassador, employee, mentor, sponsor, and vendor).

Contact Information Release: The generous support provided by exhibitors is significant to the success of ABSA Biosafety and Biosecurity Conferences. The exhibiting company's goal in participating in the conference is to interact with the attendee and to provide the most current information on their products and services. Attendees mailing addresses will be made available to the exhibitors who wish to mail information. This list will only contain name, full address, and affiliation (if provided) and email addresses. No phone numbers or fax numbers will be included.

Consent to Use Photographic Images: Registration and attendance at or participation in ABSA meetings and other activities constitutes an agreement by the registrant to ABSA's use and distribution (both now and in the future) of the registrant's or attendee's image or voice, without compensation, in photographs, video tapes, electronic reproductions and audiotapes of such events and activities.





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Mundelein, IL 60060-3808 U.S.A.

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www.biosecuritysymposium.org



ABSA International is a P.A. C.E.® Authorized Provider